



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Regional Office

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F.No. 4-TNB105/2023-CHN/ 870

Date: 13th June, 2024

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu,
Environment & Forests Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai - 600 009.

Subject: Diversion of 0.054 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along road side of Maiyanur to Thondananthal road section across Melpanganur Reserved Forests in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd, Chennai-Reg.

Madam/Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No.1358/FR.10/2023-2 dated 25.07.2023 and online proposal No. FP/TN/Others/38126/2019 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section 2(1) of Van(Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the above mentioned project. The project was accorded in-principle approval by the Central Government vide letter 4-TNB105/2023-CHN/917 dated 31.07.2023. The State Government vide letter No. 1358/FR.10/2023-4 dated 30.05.2024 has reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am hereby directed to convey the Central Government's **final approval** under Section 2 (1) of Van(Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 0.054 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division

for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along road side of Maiyanur to Thondananthal road section across Melpanganur Reserved Forests in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd, Chennai, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at the appropriate distance as decided by the DFO concerned, at the cost of User Agency;
- (iii) The State Forest Department shall carry out 100 numbers of samplings with maintenance for a period of 10 years in the DFL area over an extent of 0.108 ha identified in Thagarai RF Kallakurichi Range, at the cost of the User Agency. The CA shall be carried out as per the time line prescribed in Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023;
- (iv) The maximum size of the trench shall not exceed 2.00 m depth, 1800 m length and 0.30 m width. The forest land shall be restored to its original state after laying the same;
- (v) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (vi) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- (vii) Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the machinery, labourers & staff engaged in execution of work shall not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- (viii) Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- (ix) No tree felling shall be carried out by the User Agency;
- (x) The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

- (xi) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **0.054 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- (xii) User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
- (xiii) Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDG F(Central) of the Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User Agency;
- (xiv) Violation of any of the above conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and action would be taken as per Rules and Guidelines issued under the Adhiniyam;

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Yuvaraj S

Date: 13-06-2024 11:25:18

Sd/-

(S.Yuvaraj)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy-Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy-Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32
3. IGF, ROHQ, MoEF&CC, New Delhi -110003 for information please
4. M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, No.89 Dr Radhakrishnan Salai Mylapore Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600004.
balsamy.thirunagalingam@ril.com
5. Guard file.

Sd/-

(S.Yuvaraj)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)